CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A system comprising:

2   a content server connected to a network, said content server capable of delivering

3   content over said network, said content containing a digital watermark; and

4   at least one monitor station to receive said content over said network and analyzing

5   said digital watermark for information indicative of degradation of said content.

1   2.   The system of Claim 1 wherein said network is the Internet.

1   3.   The system of Claim 1 wherein said content is multimedia content.

1   4.   The system of Claim 1 further including a content server monitor station to receive

2   said content directly from said content server and analyzing said digital watermark.

1   5.   The system of Claim 1 wherein said digital watermark is a checkerboard pattern or a

2   gray-scale image.

1   6.   The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said content server is a broadcast operations center

2   to serve content to a plurality of edge serving sites.

1   7.   The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein a monitor station is located at one of said plurality

2   of edge serving sites.

    8.   A method, comprising:

         integrating a digital watermark into content;

         distributing said content over a network as distributed content;

         receiving said distributed content in at least one location of said network;

         analyzing said digital watermark of said distributed content for information indicative

    of the quality of said distributed content.

1   9.   The method of Claim 8, further including analyzing said content prior to distribution

2   over said network for information indicative of the quality of said content.

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1   10.   The method of Claim 9, further including comparing the information indicative of the

2   quality of said distributed content to the information indicative of the quality of said content.

1   11.   A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which if executed by

2   a processor, cause the processor to effect the following, comprising:

3   integrating a digital watermark into content;

4   distributing said content over a network as distributed content;

5   receiving said distributed content in at least one location of said network;

6   analyzing said digital watermark of said distributed content for information indicative

7   of the quality of said distributed content.

1   12.   The machine-readable medium of Claim 10, further including instructions for

2   analyzing said content prior to distribution over said network for information indicative of

3   the quality of said content.

1   13.   The machine-readable medium of Claim 11, further including instructions for

2   comparing the information indicative of the quality of said distributed content to the

3   information indicative of the quality of said content.

1   14.   A system comprising:

2   means to serve content that is connected to a network, said means to serve content

3   capable of delivering content over said network, said content containing a digital watermark;

4   and

5   means for monitoring to receive said content over said network and analyzing said

6   digital watermark for information indicative of degradation of said content.

1   15.   The system of Claim 14 wherein said network is the Internet.

1   16.   The system of Claim 14 wherein said content is multimedia content.

1   17.   The system of Claim 14 further including a content server monitor station to receive

2   said content directly from said means for serving content and analyzing said digital

3   watermark.

1   18.   The system of Claim 14 wherein said digital watermark is a checkerboard pattern or a

2   gray-scale image.

1   19.   The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said means to serve content is a broadcast

2   operations center for serving content to a plurality of edge serving sites.